

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

607 Central Avenue Albany, New York 12206 - Phone 482-3375

Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas

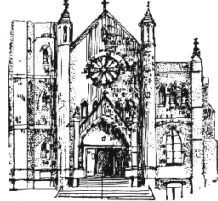
273 Central Avenue Albany, New York 12206 - Phone 465-3685

Rev. John J. Bradley, Pastor

Rev. Francis A. O'Connor - Shrine Church Chaplain

Rev. Brian Slezak - Associate Pastor

Over One Hundred Years of Faith and Tradition



Est. 1902

Organist: Ed Savoy
Pastoral Associate: Sr. Judith Kapp, RSM
Parish Secretary: Fred Talarico
In Residence (Retired): Rev. George St. John
In Residence: Rev. Francis A. O'Connor

Religion Education: Mrs. Rosemarie Reed
School Principal: Sr. Patricia Lynch, RSM
School Secretary: Mrs. Nancy Kelly
Shrine Church Pastoral Associate: Sr. Grace R. Diaz, S.N.J.M.

Parish: <http://www.blessedsacramentalbany.org/>
Email: blessedsacramentalbany@aol.com
Religious Education Office: 446-0997

School: <http://www.blessedsacramentschool.net/>
Email: bss@nycap.rr.com
Blessed Sacrament School: 438-5854

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29 & 30, 2014

Processional: O Come, O Come Emmanuel – Gather #317
Responsorial Psalm: Gather #36
Gospel Acclamation: Gather #177
Offertory: Creator of the Stars of Night – Gather #337
Holy, Holy: Music Card #4

Memorial Acclamation: Save Us – Music Card #6
Great Amen: Gather #182
Lamb of God: Gather #312
Communion Music: Take And Eat – Gather #831
Recessional: O Come Divine Messiah

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: Next Sunday we will be welcoming to our parish for the first time our new Bishop Edward Scharfenberger. He will be here for the 12:00 noon Mass for the Sacrament of Confirmation. After the Mass we will host a reception to which all of you are invited to come and welcome and meet our new Bishop. The reception will begin at about 1:15 pm. Please plan to come as a sign of welcome to our new Bishop.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Scripture readings for this week: IS 63: 16 – 19, 64: 2 – 7; I COR 1: 3 – 9; MK 13: 33 – 37.

COLLECTION NEWS: Regular: \$8,821. Human Development: \$2,904. . If you are away, please remember the parish with your envelope gift on your return. We appreciate and need your ongoing support. The 2nd collection next Sunday is our 2nd of 3 to help with our fuel expenses. The gifts placed in the poor boxes each Sunday are used to support our parish food pantry. Thank you for your support.

ADVENT: Advent begins Sunday, November 30th. Again this year we are continuing the popular tradition of having families or individuals carry the Advent wreath candle in the opening procession at each Mass. Sign-up sheets are in the Sacristy.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Our Advent Reconciliation Service will be Monday, December 1st at 7:00 pm. Please plan to attend in preparation for Christmas.

LECTORS: The workbooks containing the Sunday readings for the new Church Year beginning Sunday, November 30th, the First Sunday of Advent, are available in the sacristy after Mass today. When you pick up a book, please sign the sheet provided so we know you have one. Thank you for your ministry. Lector's schedules are also available in the Sacristy.

FABULOUS FEBRUARY: is back. Tickets are \$10 for a drawing every day in February. Valentine's Day \$1,000 is given; on weekends \$100 and weekdays \$50. All winners' tickets are put back into the drum and could be pulled again. They make nice stocking stuffers for Christmas or can be sent in a card. Invite others to help with this fundraiser for the school by buying and helping to sell these popular tickets. The red flyers at the exits list prizes for each day and the bottom part is the ticket. Cut it off and return it with your \$10 donation. This is the school's major fundraiser. Thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES: Please return the gifts by Sunday, December 14th to the boxes in all the vestibules of the Church. Thank you for your support of this project for the children. Be sure the ornament tag is securely taped on the gift.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: The Home School Association is sponsoring a "Breakfast with Santa" fundraiser, Sat, December 6th, 9-11:30 am in our school gym. Please come join us for pancakes, sausage and bacon. \$6 for adults; \$2 for children. Bring your cameras for a photo with Santa. We will also have Christmas Wreaths for sale and the opportunity to create your own ornament. Hope to see you there!

GIANTS TICKETS: Last call to purchase a chance; the drawing is this Tues, Dec 2nd. We have been given 4 tickets as a fundraiser for the school to the Sunday, Dec 14th home game, kick off at 1:00 pm (Giants vs Redskins), with parking in blue lots. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the rectory, school or Sacristy after Mass. Seats are in section 103, row 14, seats 1-4, value over \$600. Winning ticket will be drawn on Dec 2nd. Please help promote ticket sales. There are posters to advertise the tickets at all the exits; please post one if you are able.

DECORATING OF THE CHURCH: will take place Sun, Dec 21st at 1:00 pm. We need help setting up the tree, bringing up platforms and figures for the crib and hanging wreaths, lights, etc. If you are available, please come and give us a hand.

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH: for Christmas, Thurs, Dec 18th at 12:30 pm. We wash the statues, altars, polish & clean things that cannot be done regularly. If you are available, please come & help. Many hands make light work & it makes the Church so welcoming for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE: Vigil Masses Wed, Christmas Eve, at 4:00 & 6:00 pm and Thurs, Christmas Day at 9:00 & 11:00 am.

FAMILY FESTIVAL NEWS: The last bill has arrived and is paid. After all expenses, the event netted a profit of \$25,496 for the parish. Thanks again to all who made the event so enjoyable and successful.


PARISH PAGEANT: is Friday, December 12th, at 7:00 pm in Church. All are welcome.

NURSING HOME VISITS: Sat. Dec 13th. We will bring a plant, Christmas card, Church calendar and handmade Christmas item. They are spread out over many different facilities. We need your help; it means so much, is a sign of our concern and keeps them connected to the parish. You could also go Sunday if that is easier for you. Please sign the tab below and put it in the collection if you can help.

I can help with the Nursing Home Visits on Saturday, December 13th.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

MASS SCHEDULE

<p>Saturday 11/29/14 4:00 John Albert/Carol Politi Joseph & Frances Bologna Christopher Matthew Sifka, III 7:00 Josephine Foley/Pasquale Maritato Breege Nally/Ester Roddy</p>	<p>Monday 12/01/14 7:00 For the People 12:00 Francis Donnelly JoAnn Reeves</p>	<p>Wednesday 12/03/14 7:00 Sebastiana Vignolesi Hazel Prelow – Special Intention</p>	<p>Friday 12/05/14 7:00 For the People 12:00 Ann E. Magaw</p>
<p>Sunday 11/30/14 9:00 For the People 10:30 Joseph Anthony Emma, III Gertrude “Irene” Sidoti Gene Lemme/Rhea Zenzen 12:00 Thomas Betz – 7th anniversary Mary Edwards/Mary Sleasman For a Special Intention</p>	<p>Tuesday 12/02/14 7:00 For the People 12:00 Lillian M. Coleman Martha Romand – 1st anniversary Mary Meade/Mary Sleasman</p>	<p>Thursday 12/04/14 7:00 Dorothy Knorr – 1st anniversary 12:00 Eoin Fennessy Lucila Gonzalez Henry Segarra</p>	

CONFESSIONS EVERY SATURDAY FROM 3:00 - 3:30 pm

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Follow us on facebook-www.facebook.com/groups/bsyam or e-mail blessedsacyam@aol.com

YOUTH MINISTRY: Banana bread sales- thank you to all who worked on this successful project and who purchased our banana bread. We profited \$844, which was donated to our Food Pantry. Job well done! **Ronald McDonald Christmas caroling** Fri, Dec 5th. We will meet in our Church parking lot at 6:00 pm, proceed to a neighborhood in Colonie to carol, then back to the Forman Room for a Christmas party. Please bring a \$3 candy grab bag gift to exchange. Party ends at 10:00 pm. Families welcome!

FAITH FORMATION FOR YOUTH: Confirmation is Sun, Dec 7th at 12:00 noon Mass. Confirmation rehearsal is Wed, Dec 3rd at 7:00 pm in church with your sponsor. We will NOT have classes Sunday, Dec 7th but we DO have classes Sat, Dec 6th, 10:15 -11:30. Our last classes for this semester are Sun, Dec 14 & Mon, Dec 8. See you Sunday Jan 4 and Mon, Jan 5. First Reconciliation Parent meeting is Mon, Jan 12 in school at 7:00 pm.

ADORERS NEEDED: Our next First Friday Exposition will be Dec 5th, 7:30-11:45. If you are available to spend a few moments in prayer with our Blessed Lord, please take one of the paper monstrances that can be found hanging from the bulletin boards in the vestibules. Each paper monstrance lists a specific half-hour time slot. Please stay for the duration of the time listed so as to guarantee that there is at least one person in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament at all times.

COLONIE CENTER SCHOOL BUCKS: began Aug 1st. Any purchases made within the last 60 days can be registered in the name of our school. Receipts must be registered at the Service Desk next to CVS within 60 days of the purchase. Receipts will be collected from Aug-June. Please help our parish school win cash prizes by registering your receipts in our school name. You have helped us win in the past and we appreciate your support. Invite others to help us. If you would like to have one of our volunteers register your receipts, please put them in the collection or leave them at the rectory in an envelope with your name and address on it. You can pick them up at the rectory, or we can mail them if you have a stamp on the return envelope. You can register receipts from all stores and restaurants in the Center, as well as the Post Office. Please help the school again and ask others to help us with this program. We are grateful for your support. **Please consider donating to Toys for Tots on Sat, Dec 6th.** To be eligible for bonus points, donations will ONLY be accepted from noon-6pm, on the upper level near iSmile Studios/Lane Bryant. Please be sure to tally your donations with a Colonie Center Guest Service Representative at the event, otherwise your donations will not be counted for bonus points. Every new, (purchased in the past 12 months), unwrapped toy will earn BSS 50 bonus points, up to a maximum of 25,000 bonus points. As a special “thank you”, you can also enter for a chance to win a \$100 Colonie Center gift card at the event.

FOOD PANTRY: During Nov we served 274 families; among those were over 300 children, 74 under age 4; 500 adults, 50 over age 65. Thank you for your support. If you are thinking of making a donation, please consider tooth brushes, tooth paste or deodorant. Thank you.

FACEBOOK PAGE: There is a BSS Alumni Facebook page. All are welcome – <http://www.facebook.com/#!/BSSAlbanyAlumni/> You can see the whole calendar of parish events, including Mass times, social events, even funeral notices.

OVER 50: We are looking forward to our dinner on Dec 1st. Thank you to all who have signed up. If everyone who is coming to the dinner could bring a personal hygiene item, especially toothpaste or tooth brushes, they are a particular need. Our Dec 1st meeting will be our last until March 2nd. Hope to see you all then.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: First Tuesday of each month after noon Mass and the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Please enter through the parking lot door.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Every first Friday of the month from after the 7:00 AM Mass and concludes with Benediction at 11:45 AM. A funeral could interrupt this schedule.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: is prayed the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tues of each month after the noon Mass. Instruction & prayer cards will be offered

KNIT, CROCHET OR QUILT?: Please continue to supply your blankets in order for us to continue this ministry. A reminder – blankets should be at least 30” x 30” and white. Please contact Sr. Jude or Rose Reed if you have any donation or questions.

PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY: for our brothers and sisters living in our local nursing homes. The warm embrace they give is symbolic of the prayers we offer for them, especially those prayers we pray while making them. They can be any color and any style (knitted, crocheted, quilted, etc.). A good size is 30 x 30”. Please contact Sr. Jude or Rose Reed for more information.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY: 50/50 supports various parish, youth & school activities. If you can help, tickets are available in the Sacristy before or after Mass. Next meeting/drawing-Mon, Dec 1st, 6:30 pm in the Church Hall. New members are always welcome. We will have a special Christmas ham dinner.

THRIFT SHOP: is open Wed & Sat, 10:00-1:00 pm. Items that are clean and in good working condition can be dropped off when the store is open. Stop in & check us out. We are in need of household items, small appliances and lamps.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH-YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE: Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in world-wide celebration of religious life, Mon, Dec 1st, 7:00 pm, St. Joseph’s Provincial House, 384 Watervliet-Shaker Rd. Contact Sr. Jeanne Marie Gocha, 783-3605.

NEW TO THE PARISH? Welcome. Please sign below and drop in the collection. You may also use the form to receive envelopes and/or “The Evangelist”. Check the appropriate box.

Name: _____ () I am new to the parish
 Address: _____ () Send me “The Evangelist”
 Zip: _____ () Please send church envelopes
 () Please send me census form